March 18 – 24, 2021 NEWS YOU CAN USE, NEWS YOU CAN TRUST 75¢

THE EAGLE

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

No. 11 www.associatednewspapers.net

5 departments respond to raging brush fire

Last week, members of the Romulus Fire Department, along with firefighters from four other area departments, fought a significant wind-driven field brush fire. According to reports, the fire stretched about a half a mile by about 75 yards wide, challenging firefighters to control the blaze. Some minor property damage was reported but there were no injuries or life loss, according to reports. Firefighters expressed their gratitude to the dispatchers in the situation and to Romulus police officers for traffic control during the incident. They also thanked the city Department of Public Works for addressing the water issues. Firefighters and equipment from the Metro Airport Fire Department, Van Buren Fire Department, Westland Fire Department and Inkster Fire Department also responded to the scene.

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE
Vol. 136, No. 11

Sumpter Township Police have cautioned residents that outside burning of any kind is a serious risk in present weather conditions.

See page 5.

THE CANTON EAGLE
Vol. 74, No. 11

Homeowners in Canton Township are calling the upcoming sidewalk repair/maintenance program set to begin April 1 a cruel joke.

See page 2.

THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR
Vol. 74, No. 11

The Inkster Police Department has another new partner in responding to calls involving mental health incidents.

See page 6.

THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
Vol. 210, No. 11

Maria Williams has been named as assistant director at the Northville District Library She was formerly with the Baldwin Library in Birmingham.

See page 3.

THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE
Vol. 21, No. 11

The Plymouth District Library is now open to limited foot traffic, as part of the phase four of returning to public access.

See page 3.

THE ROMULUS ROMAN
Vol. 136, No. 11

Members of the Romulus City Council acknowledged the contributions of the late Oscar Curtis Hamilton, Sr. during their regular meeting March 8.

See page 6.

THE WAYNE EAGLE
Vol. 74, No. 11

HYPE Recreation Center and Wayne Main Street were each recognized by the chamber of commerce for non-profit work in the community.

See page 4.

THE WESTLAND EAGLE
Vol. 74, No. 11

The City of Westland has issued $82,470,000 in bonds to pay for a majority of the costs of the unfunded pension liability for the defined employee benefit pension plan.

See page 4.

Communities mourn death of Sam Messina, 80

The death of Salvatore Antonio "Sam" Messina, the former long-time owner of The Courthouse Grill restaurant in Plymouth, is being mourned throughout the community.

Mr. Messina, 80, of Northville, died March 5, 2021 following a stroke.

He was born in Detroit on Feb. 21, 1941, to parents Antonino and Carrie (Yannello) Messina

Mr. Messina was renown throughout the area for his gentle charm and hospitality at The Courthouse Grille, formerly known as Ernesto's, where for more than 30 years he delighted in welcoming patrons to enjoy a fine meal and celebrate the special occasions in their lives. Concurrent to his proprietorship and until his retirement in 2001, Mr. Messina served as director of investor relations for Chrysler Corp. and Daimler Chrysler. He served on a small team of executives, who along with then-Chairman Lee Iacocca, went before Congress to secure what at the time was the largest rescue package ever granted by the U.S. government to an American corporation and sealing one of the most famous corporate comebacks in recent history.

Mr. Messina also gave generously of his time and served on several boards and foundations in the community. He was a founding partner and treasurer for Keller Williams Realty Professionals in Plymouth and Brighton.

He was a friend and patron of the arts and charitable causes and loved sharing a meal and a glass of wine with his many friends and family. He traveled extensively throughout Europe and filled his home with treasures from his journeys.

Throughout his life, and especially in retirement, he could be found, shovel in hand, digging holes, and planting trees in his backyard, his family recalled.

Mr. Messina graduated from the University of Detroit in 1962, paying his way selling apples from his father's orchard at the Eastern Market on weekends. He later earned his MBA in finance, also from the University of Detroit. He valued education and instilled this in his daughters from a young age, always encouraging their goals and aspirations. He was a proud father and grandfather and enjoyed spending the holidays out west with his family. He loved to hear about his grandsons' accomplishments at college and thrilled in their pursuits, his family remembered.

Mr. Messina is survived by his daughters, Kari (Eric) Dahlquist and Terese (Randy Cass) Messina; grandsons, William and Andrew Dahlquist; siblings, Louis and Rose Messina, and many nieces, nephews and cousins, along with a multitude of friends.

He is also survived by his former wife Diane Lendzon. He was preceded in death by his partner Carolyn Anulewicz and by his brother and sister-in-law, Steve and Florence Messina.

Salvatore "Sam" Messina

Final arrangements were entrusted to the Schrader Howell Funeral Home in downtown Plymouth.

Those who wish to honor the memory of Mr. Messina are invited to consider a contribution in lieu of flowers to Partnership for the Arts & Humanities, 50755 Cherry Hill Road, Suite 10, Canton, MI 48188 and the University of Detroit Mercy, 4001 W. McNichols Road, Detroit 48221.

Westland joins national water conservation challenge

Westland Mayor William R. Wild is not a man to back away from a challenge and he enthusiastically joined a national effort last week.

Wild officially agreed to join other mayors and communities across the nation in asking residents to make a long-term commitment to manage water resources more wisely. Municipal leaders were asked to urge their residents to take part in the annual Wyland National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation.

Mayor William R. Wild

This annual challenge takes place from April 1 through April 30 and is a non-profit national community service campaign that encourages leaders to inspire their residents to make a series of simple pledges at www.mywaterpledge.com. Pledges include commitments to use water more efficiently, reduce pollution and save energy.

"As a leader committed to efficient use of the natural resources, I support the mission on the Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation, which is in line with the City of Westland's Mission: Green initiative. I encourage all Westland residents to participate in this year's challenge, which will demonstrate and renew our commitment to sustainability," commented Wild.

Last year, residents from more than 3,800 cities in all 50 U.S. states pledged to reduce their annual consumption of fresh water by 3 billion gallons, reduce waste sent to landfills by 80 million pounds, and prevent more than 177,000 pounds of hazardous waste from entering watersheds.

The challenge goes beyond recent drought issues and looks at the ways water use will affect the future of communities - from how food is grown to reducing polluted runoff, according to a prepared statement.

My Water Pledge is a friendly competition between cities across the United States to see who can be the most "water-wise." Mayors nationwide challenge their residents to conserve water, energy and other natural resources on behalf of their city through a series of informative, easy-to-use pledges online.

"Westland residents have always shown an incredible passion for green practices and conservation. I am confident our residents will show up and prove that we are one of the most environmentally conscious communities around."

For more information or to officially join the Westland team, contact Kyle Mulligan at (734)-722-7620 or email KMulligan@cityofwestland.com.

Canton

Residents oppose township sidewalk program

Julie Brown
Special Writer

Homeowners in Canton Township are calling the upcoming sidewalk repair/maintenance program set to begin April 1 a cruel joke.

Despite complaints from 10 or 11 residents during a March 9 public hearing which took place using Zoom, members of the board of trustees approved the project.

"Many homeowners are barely hanging on. This project needs to be suspended," wrote one in comments read aloud that evening by township Clerk Michael Siegrist.

Others who spoke or wrote, noted the impact of COVID-19 leading to job layoffs and financial hardship. The Huntington Place No. 2 subdivision writer added that the marking of affected sidewalk panels by township workers using red dots for municipal responsibility and green for homeowners, "was a total joke."

Trustee Tania Ganguly asked about the availability of the five-year payment option which charges residents 6 percent interest. Ganguly asked if interest could be waived, with Treasurer Dian Slavens replying that bank loans are available to residents.

Two separate households inquired March 9 at the meeting about their corner lots which necessitates their expense for the replacement of some 17 sidewalk panels. Homeowners have 60 days after the public hearing to either have repairs done or the township will proceed with the work and bill the resident for the cost.

> *Many homeowners are barely hanging on. This project needs to be suspended.*

Questions were asked about quality of materials used to replace sidewalk panels. Director of Municipal Services Jade Smith noted liability concerns following a 1997 Michigan Supreme Court Case that didn't favor Canton Township.

Residents also inquired March 9 about the Americans With Disabilities Act factor, asking why a federal law provision is put on homeowners and not on the township.

One woman asked if financial assistance could be offered for maintaining trees near sidewalks, where roots can cause damage. Officials noted housing developers installed the trees as part of initial construction.

The Zone 5 area is near Cherry Hill and Canton Center roads, and some of that work was delayed last year due to water main work done.

The subdivisions targeted for sidewalk repair in Zone 6 this year are located south of Cherry Hill Road, west of Canton Center Road, east of Beck Road and north of Michigan Avenue in Hidden River Estates, Huntington Place #1 and #2, Kimberly Meadows, Meadow Villages of Canton #1 and #2, North Woods Place and Pinewood #1 and #2.

Smith said residents should direct their calls regarding sidewalk issues lto the township engineering department at (734) 394-5150.

"We are more than happy to come out and revisit the properties," he said.

In other business March 9, following a closed session, a tentative pact was ratified with Local 2289 of the International Association of Fire Fighters. The fire fighters had been working without a pact, and are now covered by a collective bargaining agreement from Jan. 1, 2020, through Dec. 31, 2023.

"We have a really great contract," said Kerreen Conley, township human resources manager.

Summit to be site of 2 spring Indoor Farmers' Markets

The Canton Farmers Market will return with special Off-Season Markets in March and April at the Summit on the Park community recreation center, with COVID-19 safety protocols in place. The markets will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 21, and April 18, in the Banquet Center at the Summit on the Park, located on 46000 Summit Parkway.

A variety of local food growers and producers have signed on to participate in these Off-Season Farmers Markets, including: Pick Michigan - featuring produce, eggs, and tortillas; Kapnick Orchards - featuring apples, apple cider, and baked goods; Simply Gourmet Fresh - featuring salsa, chips, and gourmet butter; The Cheese People of Grand Rapids - featuring cheese; Boblin Honey- featuring honey; Spicegrrrl LLC - featuring spices; The Pasta Shop Plymouth - featuring pasta and sauce; Kapolnek Farms LLC - featuring USDA Certified Beef; One Tough Cookie - featuring designed sugar cookies; Sign Woodworks - featuring unique signs and crafts; Vera's Kuntry Bakery - featuring pies, cookies, candy and more and Olde Crow Primitives - featuring seasonal crafts, signs, and candles.

"We're always excited to bring back our off-season markets to the Summit on the Park," said Canton Farmers Market Supervisor Jennifer Franz. "Now more than ever we are glad that we're able to help support our local farmers and crafters who provide access to healthy food sources and unique items."

All market-goers, vendors, and staff will be required to properly wear face masks, covering both mouth and nose, as well as abide by social distancing requirements. Bridge Card and Double Up Food Bucks transactions will also be accepted. Tokens may be purchased at the Canton Leisure Services table. Market-goers are encouraged to enter through the banquet doors.

> *Now more than ever we are glad that we're able to help support our local farmers and crafters who provide access to healthy food sources and unique items.*

All of these indoor Off-Season Farmers Markets will pick up where the outdoor regular season of the Canton Farmers Market left off. The new season of the outdoor Canton Farmers Market will re-open from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Sunday, May 9, and will be open every Sunday through Oct. 11 in Preservation Park, located at 500 N. Ridge Road, Canton.

For additional Canton Farmers Market information, visit www.canton-mi.org/496, contact the Farmers Market Coordinator at cantonfarmersmarket@canton-mi.org or call (734) 394-5375.

School trustee resigns post

Leonardo Savage has resigned his position with the Plymouth-Canton Schools Board of Education due to "continuing health challenges."

The resignation was announced by board president Patti McCoin during the March 9 meeting of the board members.

"We thank him for his service to the school community and send our best wishes to Mr. Savage and his family," she said.

The school district has 30 days to appoint a trustee to serve until the next school board election in November of 2022. Information regarding the application process and timeline is available on the district website.

Savage attended only two of the 20 meetings of the board since he was elected Aug. 11, leaving only six voting members on the board.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, April 8, 2021 for the following:

TREE REMOVAL AND PRUNING PROGRAM

Bids may be downloaded on the MITN Purchasing Group website at https://www.bidnetdirect.com/mitn/cantontownship or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: mike.sheppard@canton-mi.org. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

MICHAEL SIEGRIST, CLERK

Publish 3/18/2021

CN2198 - 031821 2.5 x 2.044

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AGENDA
April 8, 2021

Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals **THURSDAY, April 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM.** To mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, protect the public health, and provide essential protections to Canton Township residents; the Canton Township Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct its meeting by video teleconference in accordance with Michigan law. Individuals may join the video teleconference by going to:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87625877787

Or iPhone one-tap: 1-312-626-6799 (87625877787#) or 1-301-715-8592 (87625877787#)

Or Telephone: 1-301-715-8592 or 1-312-626-6799

Webinar ID: 876 2587 7787

International numbers available: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdUnSinoR

7:00 P.M.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Jim Cisek, Vicki Welty, Craig Engel, Greg Greco, John Badeen.
Alternate: Gregory Demopoulos

Approval of Minutes:
March 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Approval of Agenda

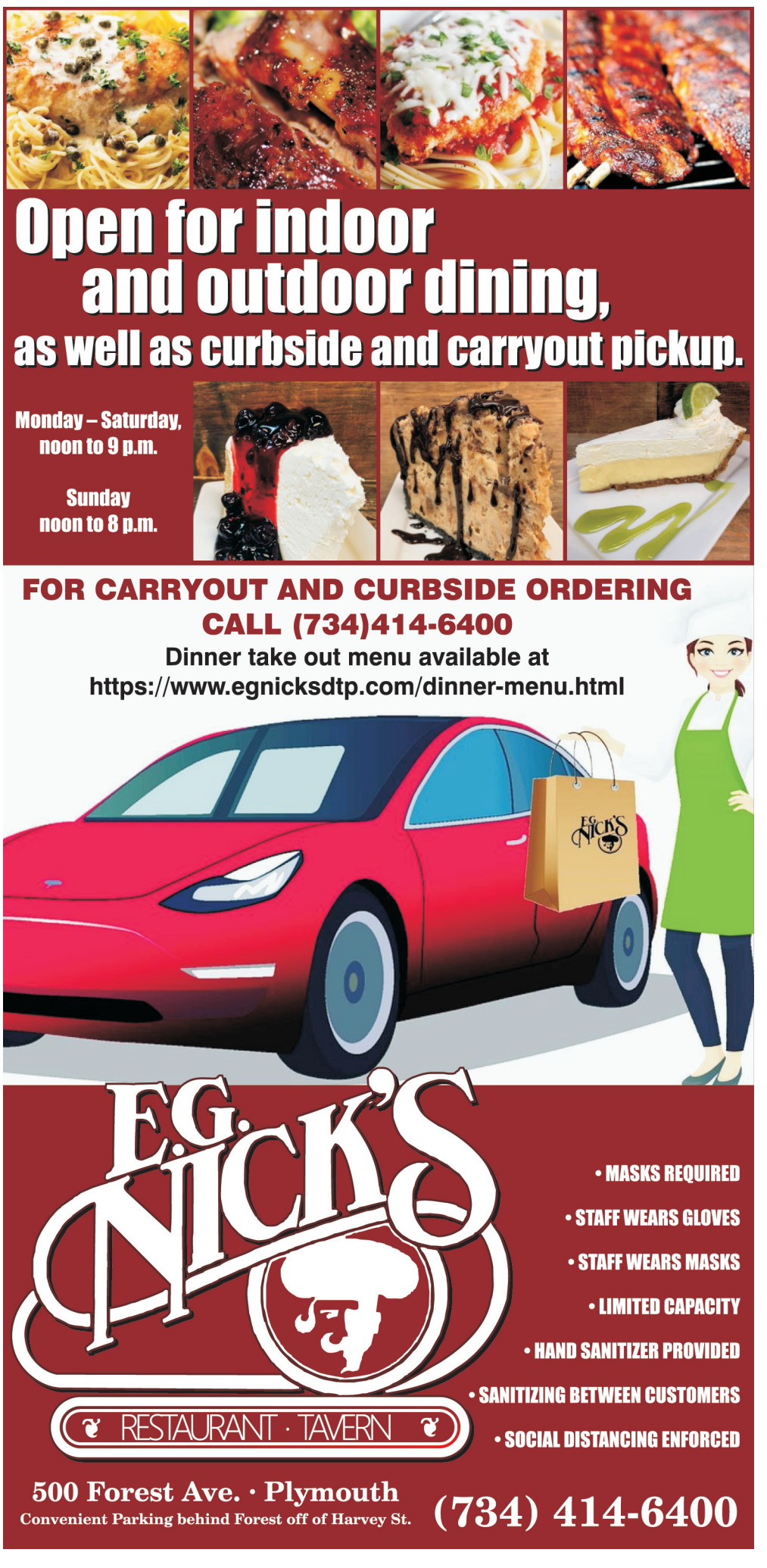
General Calendar:

1. Applicant, Lora Martinson, representative of Springfield Sign, for property located at 45275 Ford Road, located on the south side of Ford Road and east of Canton Center Road, Zoning C-2, Community Commercial in the Central Business District Overlay. Appealing Article 6A, Section 6A.15 (Menu Order and Similar Drive-Through Assistance Signs) of the Zoning Ordinance. The requested variance is to allow a menu order/similar drive-through assistance sign to exceed the maximum area of 24 sq. ft. as illustrated on the submitted plans. Parcel ID 058-99-0003-720 (part of) (Building).

Written comments need to be submitted prior to 4:00 PM on the date of the hearing. All written comments must be sent to the Charter Township of Canton. Clerk's Office, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI 48188, Phone 734-394-5120.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with disabilities who require special accommodations, auxiliary aids or services to attend participate at the meeting/hearing should contact Kerreen Conley, Human Resources Manager, at 734-394-5260.
Reasonable accommodations can be made with advance notice.
A complete copy of the Access to Public Meetings Policy is available at www.canton-mi.org

CN2197 - 031821 2.5 x 5.845



NORTHVILLE - PLYMOUTH

Northville Public Library welcomes new director

Maria Williams has been named as assistant director at the Northville District Library. In her new role, Williams will help to continue the mission of the library to providing a welcoming, user-friendly space, exceptional customer service, and innovative programming for patrons of all ages.

Williams previously worked at Baldwin Public Library in Birmingham where she was the head of Adult Services, a job she held since 2014. During her eight years at Baldwin, she significantly increased adult and teen program engagement and attendance, led the adult services department through a multi-million dollar renovation project, launched one of the best library maker-spaces in the state, facilitated staff training through a catalog system migration, and - together with the administration - guided the library safely through the first year of the COVID-19.

"The Northville District Library is excited to be adding a librarian of Maria's caliber to its team of information professionals," said Library Director Laura Mancini. "Her experience will be a great asset to tap into as the library works to restore and enhance patron services for a post COVID-19 environment."

Williams holds a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Michigan and a Master's of Library and Information Science from Wayne State University.

"My favorite part of public librarianship is helping people to learn new things every day," Williams said. "Whether it's our patrons or my colleagues, it's always rewarding to be with people when they have 'A-ha!' moments. And the bonus is that I am always learning, too. I'm also a people person and love to meet new people and make new friends, so I'm quite excited to get to know the community."

Williams lives in Detroit with Mike, a Detroit firefighter, and their pets, Jack and Linwood.

A little horse play

Maybury Farm in Northville is opening on weekends from noon until 5 p.m. While the Maple Syrup making tours are already sold out, the animals are ready for guests. Masks and social distancing is required. Lavatory facilities are not open yet due to the weather, but there are portable facilities available. Maybury Farm is located at 50165 Eight Mile Road in Northville, 1/2 mile west of Maybury State Park. Enter at the Maybury Farm sign, do not enter the State Park, officials advised.

Shamrock on the Shelf is hiding in Plymouth

Visitors to Plymouth are hoping for the luck of the Irish this month as they participate in the Shamrock on the Shelf scavenger hunt.

The Rotary Club of Plymouth and the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority scavenger hunt began last week and will continue through March 28. Participants can use the time frame to complete one, or up to four, routes through downtown Plymouth to receive a $25 gift card from participating merchants. The clues also have information about the Rotary Club of Plymouth and Rotary International.

The Rotary Foundation has committed up to $10,000 to help downtown Plymouth businesses during the pandemic. That converts to 400 gift certificates, noted DDA Director Tony Bruscato, "a generous offer from the club to support the Plymouth community."

Visitors can find the starting point at the Shamrock on the Shelf kiosk at the corner of Main Street and Ann Arbor Trail where they can scan one of four color QR Codes with a cell phone. After scanning, a clue will appear to begin a trip through downtown Plymouth to find similarly colored shamrocks in stores or in storefront windows. The shamrocks will unlock another clue to the next location. Keep following the clues and scanning the QR Codes until all eight have been found and with the eighth clue, visitors can register to receive a $25 gift card. There can only be one winner per household and the there are a total of 400 gift cards available.

Because there are four different routes, hunters are invited to complete all four and register to receive a $25 gift card for completing each one, but again, one winner per household.

Northville buildings are reopened

Township Hall and the Northville Community Center reopened March 15. The move is consistent with the lifting of restrictions through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, township officials explained.

Township Hall hours are 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and the Community Center doors will be open from 9 a.m. until noon Monday-Friday for walk-in traffic. Public safety headquarters will remain closed to the public except by appointment only.

'Grab and Go'

Plymouth Library offers limited access

The Plymouth District Library reopened to limited foot traffic on Monday, as part of the phase four of returning to public access.

The library is now featuring Grab and Go from noon until 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. The public will be allowed visits of one hour or less. Also available will be computer use by appointment, copying, faxing and staff assistance.

"Limited building access means that we will be opening the floors in stages, beginning with the main floor. The upper floor and then the lower floor will follow as soon as safe staffing allows. Staff is available and eager to bring materials for patrons from floors that are not yet accessible," explained Library Director Carol Souchock.

Scheduled curbside pickup continues to be available. Library users who are not yet ready to enter the building may request items online or by phone, and once they receive a confirmation, schedule a time to pick up their holds on the porch. Details on how to use curbside service are available at https://plymouthlibrary.org/.

Programming for all ages will continue to be hosted online via Zoom, Souchock said. The full schedule of events can be found on the library website Events page. Register online to receive the Zoom login information. Patrons are also welcomed to check out events offered by the Northville District Library, which are also listed on the PDL calendar, she added.

"To aid in our safe quarantining efforts, the library requests that items continue to be returned only the outside bookdrop. A bin on the porch is available for oversized items. At this time, donations of materials are not yet being accepted," she said.

For ongoing updates, visit the library website at plymouthlibrary.org or follow social media. For help, call (734) 453-0750 or email info@plymouthlibrary.org.

The library is located at 223 S. Main St. in downtown Plymouth.

CITY OF ROMULUS - Board of Zoning Appeals
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
April 7, 2021, 7:00 pm

Notice is hereby given that the City of Romulus Board of Zoning of Appeals will hold a public hearing at **7:00 p.m.** on **Wednesday, April 7, 2021** at the Romulus City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road OR via the Zoom Meeting application for the purpose of considering the following:

1. **BZA-2021-003 and 004; M&K Truck Center** requesting a variance from Sec. 48-7 of Chapter 48, SIGNS to allow additional wall signs. The building contains 2 wall signs, 1 permitted and 1 through a variance; 2 additional wall signs are requested for a total of 4 wall signs where only 1 wall sign is allowed.

The property is located at 29275 Citrin Dr. (Parcel ID #80-047-99-0024-704) and zoned, M-T Industrial Transportation District.

Join Zoom Meeting:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89042317693?pwd=M3JuUnNjaC9PV01JbGpPT1doSWZsdz09

Dial: 1-646-558-8656
Meeting ID: 890 4231 7693 Passcode: 860289

Persons with disabilities who need accommodations to effectively participate in the meeting should contact the Carol Maise, City Planner at 734-955-4530 or send an email to planning@romulus-gov.com by 8:00 a.m. the day of the meeting to request assistance. Closed Captions will be provided upon request.
Ellen Craig-Bragg, CMC, City Clerk
Publish: March 18, 2021

RM0557 - 031821 2.5 x 4.071

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon notice to the Charter Township of Canton.

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the Charter Township of Canton will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities.

Employment: The Charter Township of Canton does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices and complies with all regulations promulgated by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under Title II of the ADA.

Effective Communication: The Charter Township of Canton will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in the Charter Township of Canton's programs, services, and activities, including qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille, and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments.

Modifications to Policies and Procedures: The Charter Township of Canton will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities. For example, individuals with service animals are welcomed in the Charter Township of Canton's offices, even where pets are generally prohibited.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of the Charter Township of Canton should contact the office of Barb Brouillette, Human Resources Coordinator, Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188, (734) 394-5260 as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

The ADA does not require the Charter Township of Canton to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

Complaints that a program, service, or activity of the Charter Township of Canton is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to Barb Brouillette, Human Resources Coordinator, Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188, (734) 394-5260.

The Charter Township of Canton will not place a surcharge on a particular individual with a disability or any group of individuals with disabilities to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids/services or reasonable modifications of policy, such as retrieving items from locations that are open to the public but are not accessible to persons who use wheelchairs.

Publish: 03/18/21

CN2196 - 031821 2.5 x 4.72

PLANNING COMMISSION
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Michigan Public Act 110 of 2006, of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, April 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** by electronic remote access on the following proposed amendment to the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING APPENDIX A - ZONING, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, MICHIGAN, BY AMENDING ARTICLE 6.00 - AMENDING SITE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO SPECIFIC USES AS FOLLOWS:

ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT - Consider request to amend the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance amending Article 6 - Section 6.02, Site Development Standards for Nonresidential Uses to establish standards for Outdoor Dining Accessory to a Restaurant.

To mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, protect the public health, and provide essential protections to Canton Township residents; the Canton Township Planning Commission will conduct its meeting on Monday, April 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. by video teleconference in accordance with Michigan law.

Public comments may be submitted to patrick.sloan@canton-mi.org at any time prior to the meeting. Additionally, written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Township Administration Building at 1150 S Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI 48188 by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 5, 2021. The Secretary or staff will read comments submitted within the Rules of the Planning Commission during the meeting. Members of the public who attend by telephone or video may address the Planning Commission during the public hearing period via videoconference.

Individuals may join the video teleconference by going to:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81306397130

Or iPhone one-tap:
1-646-558-8656 (81306397130#) or 1-312-626-6799 (81306397130#)

Or Telephone:
1-301-715-8592 or 1-312-626-6799

Webinar ID: 813 0639 7130

International numbers available: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbr6RcFNVC

Greg Greene, Chairman
Publish: Newspaper - March 18, 2021

CN2199 - 031821 2.5 x 5.279

Wayne - Westland

Unfunded pension liability reduced in Westland

Despite additional challenges for municipalities working through the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Westland has continued to find solutions to tackle some of the biggest city issues, including the unfunded pension liability.

The City of Westland has issued $82,470,000 in bonds to pay for a majority of the costs of the unfunded pension liability for the defined benefit pension plan for government employees administered by the Michigan Employees Retirement System of Michigan (MERS), according to Mayor William R. Wild.

The 2021 bonds will allow the city to fund 95 percent of the unfunded pension liability (up from 40 percent) by borrowing at a low all-in fixed cost of 2.39 percent, Wild explained.

By issuing the 2021 bonds at this low fixed rate, the city is expecting to see considerable cost savings over the life of the 2021 Bonds as compared to their existing projected pension cost repayment schedule. The city financing is expected to generate more than $78.04 million in cash flow savings or 70.21 percent in Net Present Value (NPV) savings (as a percentage of bonds issued) during the term of the city projected pension liability payment schedule, Wild said in a prepared statement.

> *We were able to take advantage of low interest rates and our excellent bond rating in order to honor our commitment made to our retirees without increasing taxes.*

Westland began phasing out the defined benefit for employees beginning in 2010 and by Jan. 1, 2014, all new employees hired in under are in a defined contribution retirement program (similar to a 401(k) for private sector employees), Wild added.

"The City of Westland remains committed to finding creative solutions to the problems we face, along with many other municipalities," Wild said. "With the much appreciated support we received from the Michigan Department of Treasury, we were able to take advantage of low interest rates and our excellent bond rating in order to honor our commitment made to our retirees without increasing taxes."

Wayne chamber presents annual business awards

New Wayne Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Zachery Burskey welcomed the 2021 board of directors for the organization recently and presented the annual awards to local businesses.

Burskey, who has been with the chamber since December, said his goals were to provide benefit opportunities like health care options, business discounts and other digital events for the 80 or so chamber members.

HYPE Recreation Center and Wayne Main Street were each recognized by the chamber for non-profit work in the community.

HYPE distributed two or three truckloads of food to residents during Saturdays last summer.

Stan Shelton, a chamber board member who volunteered at the food distribution, said cars were lined up outside HYPE down Howe to Van Born and back to Venoy. HYPE has also provided space for COVID-19 testing sites and inoculations.

Wayne Main Street annually hosts the city Spring Clean-Up event. The organization also organizes the annual fall scarecrow event "which brings a bit of shine to the community," said Shelton.

Estefany Gonzalez was recognized for her volunteer work with the Wayne Chamber of Commerce.

A high school student, Gonzalez reduced chamber records to a manageable level and designed the car hood the chamber entered in the Wayne Main Street 2019 competition. She also designed the scarecrow the chamber entered in the 2020 downtown competition.

The chamber also named the board members for 2021 including Amanda Dybus from the Wayne Westland Schools; Daryan Edmunds from State Farm Insurance-Clay Nissan; Sue Elliot from Storage Sense; Maria Rico from Lobo Tires; Chelsea Rushlow from Imperial Press; Stan Shelton of J&S Portrait America Photography; Shane Vida from Phoenix Theatres and Magan Zuk from Advantage Living Center.

Sunshine Week prompts launch of new dashboard

The City of Westland has launched a new financial and community performance dashboard available at www.cityofwestland.com.

The new dashboard, powered by Michigan-based Munetrix, provides an insider's look at the financial health of the city by providing a convenient and easy-to-navigate portal for multi-year data regarding where city money comes from and where it is spent. Also included on the dashboard are other relevant financial reports and community data insights, according to a city spokesman.

The launch has coincided with "Sunshine Week," which is an annual nationwide initiative that acknowledges the importance of open government. "Sunshine Week" was established in 2005 and occurs every year in mid-March, along with James Madison's birthday and National Freedom of Information Day on March 16. This year, "Sunshine Week" falls on the week of March 14 - March 20 and the new Westland transparency-focused dashboard launched on Monday.

> *Westland remains committed to practices that promote transparency. Transparency is inextricably linked to good governing and public trust.*

The City of Westland also launched a Police Transparency Dashboard in September of 2020 which provides up-to-date transparency information about the police department to the public. The dashboard shows crime rates, arrest data, citation data, citizen complaints, officer use of force and training data for all of the department's 81 sworn officers and 25 civilian employees.

Both dashboards are available year-round at www.cityofwestland.com.

"Westland remains committed to practices that promote transparency," commented Mayor William R. Wild. "Transparency is inextricably linked to good governing and public trust."

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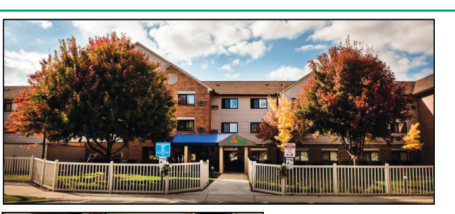
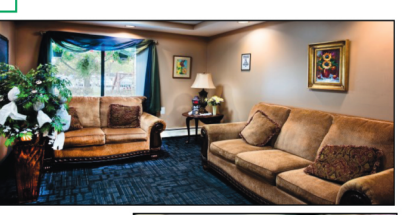

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59. Auctions

PUBLIC AUCTION
MARTIN'S TOWING
17180 DIX TOLEDO
BROWNSTOWN MI
48193
MARCH 29, 2021
10:00 A.M.

2008 VOLKSWAGEN
3VWRM71K68M154092
1986 CHEVROLET
1G8CT18R7G0147756
2002 MAZDA
4F2CU08152KM03591
1967 FORD
7F01A119175
2003 HUMMER
5GRGN23U03H142671
2018 GMC
3GTU2NEC4JG623081
2012 JEEP
1C4PJMAK6CW137397

THE FOLLOWING CARS HAVE BEEN DEEMED ABANDONED BY THE INKSTER POLICE DEPT. AND WILL BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC AUCTION AT BISHOP AUTO WRECKING LLC AT 2780 SPRINGHILL INKSTER, MI 48141 ON FRIDAY MARCH 26, 2021 AT 10AM.
2007 BUICK
3G5DA03L27S500952
2000 CHEVROLET
2G1WH55K8Y9250736
2002 SATURN
1G8JS54F72Y544911
2015 CHEVROLET
1G11C5SL1FF325612
2002 MAZDA
JM1TA221321730798

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61. Misc. Items

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269-624-6215 Evenings

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BELLEVILLE - SUMPTER - VAN BUREN

School trustees consider sinking fund millage

Members of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education are expected to decide next Monday whether to place a sinking fund millage on the Nov. 2 ballot.

The current sinking fund millage, set at .4917 of a mill, generates about $873,000 in tax revenue annually which can only be used for site improvements and building renovations. It will expire in 2022.

While the district currently has building repair and improvement plans for the next three years, the anticipated sinking fund millage will fall short of the funding needed for the third year, explained Rob Kakoczki of Plante Moran CRESA during the meeting of the board members last week. He added that there is currently no funding balance for any emergency repairs included in those plans. The board members have approved a plan which includes projects costing $356,000 this year, $1,321,500 in 2022, and $2,020,000 in 2023.

Superintendent of Schools Pete Kudlak told the board members that Belleville High School is 11 years old and that the "mechanicals" in buildings throughout the district are also reaching a time when they may need replacement or repair. He said the goal of the sinking fund is to manage the repairs and replacements in school buildings without taking money from classrooms.

> *Any sinking fund millage approved by voters in the November 2021 election would not become effective until the end of 2023.*

Kudlak also reminded the board members that the school millage in the Van Buren schools is lower than most other districts and could be increased and still remain among the lowest in the area.

He urged the members of the board to talk to the public about the possible ballot question. He suggested the board members be prepared to discuss and possibly vote on the issue during the meeting set for March 22.

"Talk to your people," Kudlak told the board members. "You all have people. That's how you get elected."

Wording for a sinking fund ballot question would have to be submitted by August and Kudlak suggested that it would be ideal to have a decision from the board by the end of March.

Any sinking fund millage approved by voters in the November 2021 election would not become effective until the end of 2023, officials noted.

Sumpter fire officials warn against outside burning

Sumpter Township fire officials have cautioned residents that outside burning of any kind is a serious risk in present weather conditions.

"Due to dry ground conditions across Southeast Michigan, the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) has upgraded the wildfire risk for our area to 'Very High.' Avoid outside burning of any kind," is a message posted on the official police department Facebook page.

"The Sumpter Township Fire Department has responded for mutual aid to several wildland/field fires in surrounding communities over the past week and five within the township during just the past two days," the warning continues. Wildland fires usually spread very rapidly, with the potential to threaten nearby houses and other structures before fire suppression activities can begin, officials said.

> *Avoid outside burning of any kind.*

Those whose negligent activity leads to wildland fire and subsequent property destruction can be held liable, both criminally and civilly.

The daily DNR fire risk map can be found at:

https://glff.mesowest.org/map/#/c4465,-8723,7/g0/mc/vadjc/s/n/zt

Van Buren Township now has new website

Van Buren Township has a new government website which members of the board of trustees hope will better serve the residents and employees of Van Buren Township.

"This has been a long collaborative process involving every department and includes outside studies," said Supervisor Kevin McNamara.

"Every department has been working with the communications team to build a user-friendly searchable website. I am very proud of the spirit of shared intelligence and community that was put into building out this website."

As health restrictions due to the pandemic and unpredictable weather continue, government agencies like Van Buren Township are relying on the most up-to-date communication and municipality website tools, explained Alysha Albrecht, communications specialist for the township.

"We've constantly discussed how to make this site as user-friendly as possible.

"Now with Revize features, within seconds residents should be able to find what they're looking for on the home page," Albrecht said.

Some new features include quick links with a scrolling bar, and email and text notifications that allow residents to sign up for real time updates, she said. An additional new feature holds space for Van Buren employees with the inclusion of an intranet server.

"Intranet is basically our internal communication through the site, where employees can login and view employee resources. It's a great feature to keep Van Buren Township and employees together in one unified space," explained Ryan Nichols, a township communications specialist.

Revize, which worked on the development of the new website, is a leading government municipality web design company that works with many other townships, counties, and cities in Michigan and across the U.S., according to a prepared statement from the township.

"We are constantly trying to be better than our last website. We've utilized best practices for Van Buren's website to ensure top performance," said Joseph Nagrant, lead sales specialist of Revize.

"We want to thank Revize for helping us build such a visual and dynamic website," said township Executive Assistant Dan Selman.

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING
TO BE HELD ELECTRONICALLY
SUMPTER TOWNSHIP
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

To: The residents and property owners of Sumpter Township, Wayne County, Michigan, and any other interested parties.

Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, as amended, that the Sumpter Township **Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a remote Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting on Thursday, April 1, 2021 beginning at 6:00 p.m.**

The electronic Sumpter Township Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting will be held as a video conference. The public may participate in the electronic Sumpter Township Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting by logging into **www.zoom.us** and entering the meeting ID and password code when prompted. The public will be able to listen to all discussion by Sumpter Township Zoning Board of Appeals members and will be permitted to speak during the public comment section of the agenda.

https://zoom.us/j/92255484933?pwd=eCtuUWhCTVFsSnAwOElIYzU0NmxGQT09
US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 558 8656
Webinar ID: 922 5548 4933

NATURE OF THE REQUEST

The public hearing is for consideration of a dimensional variance to construct a 1,600 square-foot accessory structure addition to an existing 1,792 square-foot accessory structure on a 2.8-acre parcel. Per Section 5.3(a)(4) of the Zoning Ordinance, parcels between 1.01 acres to 3 acres are permitted a maximum aggregate gross floor area of 2,400 square feet for accessory structures. The proposed gross floor area of the subject accessory structure is 3,392 square feet, a dimensional variance of 992 square feet is required.

SITE LOCATION

The site of the requested dimensional variance is 18284 Savage Road, Belleville, MI 48111.

This Public Hearing has been scheduled in accordance with the requirements of Public Act. 168, Section 0 of 1959 (amendments to the Township Rural Zoning Act. P.A. 184) to provide all interested citizens an opportunity to express opinions, ask question, and discuss in detail all aspects of the proposed use.

For those unable to attend the Public Hearing, written comments may be submitted to the Township Clerk's Office prior to the hearing date.

Esther Hurst
Clerk
Sumpter Township

Published: March 18, 2021
Posted: March 12, 2021

ST0040 - 031821 2.5 x 5.384

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ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING
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US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 558 8656
Webinar ID: 922 5548 4933

NATURE OF THE REQUEST

The public hearing is for consideration of a dimensional variance to permit an 1,800 square-foot detached accessory structure to be twelve (12) feet from the side yard property boundary. Per Section 5.3(a)(5) of the Zoning Ordinance, the minimum side yard setback distance for detached accessory structures between 1,601 square-feet to 2,200 square-feet is fifteen (15) feet. A dimensional variance of three (3) feet is required.

SITE LOCATION

The site of the requested dimensional variance is 44545 Willow Road, Belleville, MI 48111.

This Public Hearing has been scheduled in accordance with the requirements of Public Act. 168, Section 0 of 1959 (amendments to the Township Rural Zoning Act. P.A. 184) to provide all interested citizens an opportunity to express opinions, ask question, and discuss in detail all aspects of the proposed use.

For those unable to attend the Public Hearing, written comments may be submitted to the Township Clerk's Office prior to the hearing date.

Esther Hurst
Clerk
Sumpter Township

Published: March 18, 2021
Posted: March 12, 2021

ST0041 - 031821 2.5 x 5.384

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING
TO BE HELD ELECTRONICALLY
SUMPTER TOWNSHIP
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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https://zoom.us/j/92255484933?pwd=eCtuUWhCTVFsSnAwOElIYzU0NmxGQT09

US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 558 8656

Webinar ID: 922 5548 4933

NATURE OF THE REQUEST

The public hearing is for consideration of a dimensional variance to permit construction of a 2,560 square-foot detached accessory structure on a 1.58-acre parcel. Per Section 5.3(a)(4) of the Zoning Ordinance, accessory structures on parcels between 1.01 acres to 3 acres are permitted a maximum aggregate gross floor area of 2,400 square feet. A dimensional variance of 160 square feet is required.

SITE LOCATION

The site of the requested dimensional variance is 46725 Harris Road, Belleville, MI 48111.
This Public Hearing has been scheduled in accordance with the requirements of Public Act. 168, Section 0 of 1959 (amendments to the Township Rural Zoning Act. P.A. 184) to provide all interested citizens an opportunity to express opinions, ask question, and discuss in detail all aspects of the proposed use.

For those unable to attend the Public Hearing, written comments may be submitted to the Township Clerk's Office prior to the hearing date.

Esther Hurst
Clerk
Sumpter Township

Published: March 18, 2021
Posted: March 12, 2021

ST0042 - 031821 2.5 x 5.384

Romulus - Inkster

'COPE'ing skills

Inkster police offer mental health emergency service

The Inkster Police Department has another new partner in responding to calls involving mental health incidents.

In addition to the partnership with Growth Works, a non-profit organization in Plymouth serving youth and families, Inkster police also work in partnership with Hegira Programs, Inc. for assistance in calls that involve psychiatric emergencies.

While the Growth Works partnership is designed to work with those experiencing opioid abuse, the new partnership with Hegira Programs, Inc. called C.O.P.E. (Community Outreach for Psychiatric Emergencies) is designed to help those experiencing a mental-health incident. COPE has a "hotline" available to officers who respond to calls at Adult Foster Care (AFC) and private homes in the city where mental health crises may be involved. A Mobile Crisis Team from Hegira can be dispatched to the location to triage the needs of the patient experiencing any behavioral health crisis. Staff members from Hegira are trained to make an appropriate assessment of such situations and determine the best care for the individual involved.

The new program can be used by officers even when a crime has not been committed, but there is an individual experiencing a mental or emotional breakdown, refusing to take prescribed medication or who is exhibiting behavior that is not conducive to the rules of the Adult Foster Care home. Officers in Inkster can contact the COPE hotline to generate a request for service and the mobile crisis team will be dispatched. A patient can also be transported to the crisis stabilization unit located in Livonia, in lieu of a hospital.

The COPE team is available to officers 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The program is funded by The Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority, also a partner with Hegira Programs, Inc.

Inkster officials said they hope this new outreach program will get AFC home patients the proper psychiatric care they need while educating the AFC home staff on the services the police and COPE provide. This program may also curb some of the calls made to police that are not actually criminal in nature, officials said.

Hegira Programs, Inc. has recently added another facet to the psychiatric intervention program they provide. Mobile Crisis Stabilization (MCS) is also now available to assist responding officers with "behavioral health calls for service" to include welfare checks where the subject may be exhibiting the onset of behavioral health issues, those with chronic behavioral health issues, those seeking or without access to psychiatric medications and any other situation deemed appropriate by the intake unit. This program, too, is available to both AFC and private homes in the Inkster.

This program is designed to provide help for individuals who are not in imminent danger of hurting themselves or others.

If an Inkster police officer encounters a subject who should be evaluated but who does not need to be placed in protective custody or conveyed to a mental health facility, the officer can refer the individual for this behavioral health support program.

The Growth Works program offers a "rescue recovery - peer support services" to anyone who is seeking opioid addiction intervention.

This program is designed to help citizens with opioid addiction by assisting them into a rehabilitation treatment program.

Oscar Hamilton, Sr. remembered, mourned in Romulus

Members of the Romulus City Council acknowledged the contributions of the late Oscar Curtis Hamilton Sr. during their regular meeting March 8.

They also offered condolences and sympathy to his family members who were involved in a serious automobile accident while mourning their loved one. During the meeting, Councilwoman Eva Webb explained that while Mr. Curtis was being mourned at the funeral home, members of his family were involved in an auto accident and one of his granddaughters seriously injured.

Mr. Hamilton, 94, died March 1, 2021. A long-time Romulus resident, he was recently honored with a formal resolution acknowledging his contributions to the community by the city. Webb noted that the loss of Mr. Hamilton would be felt throughout the city due to his continued contributions and service.

Councilman William Wadsworth also recalled Mr. Hamilton as "a good, decent human being. I worked with him when I was at the sheriff's department," Wadsworth recalled. "He was a fine man."

Councilwoman Virginia Williams also expressed her sadness at Mr. Hamitlon's death noting,"He would always go out of his way to help. We appreciate all the service he gave to our seniors," she said.

Webb also expressed the thanks of the family to Mayor LeRoy Burcroff who had presented the resolution of appreciation to Mr. Curtis' family.

"They wanted to thank Mayor Burcroff for the proclamation. The wording was so special," she said, "and they wanted to express their gratitude."

Council president John Barden commented that he knew Mr. Hamilton as a fellow Rotary Club member and was a "really great person who will be missed."

> *He would always go out of his way to help. We appreciate all the service he gave to our seniors.*

Mr. Hamilton was predeceased by his parents, Susie Dotson and Ocie Hamilton; his siblings, George, Martha, Joe, Billy, Addie May, Carri, Louise and Olga; his wife, Johnnie Bernice Woodard; his children, Patricia Ann and Randolph, and a granddaughter, Brandi.

Among his survivors are his sons, Oscar Jr., Brent (Valencia) and Donald (Joy); grandchildren, Sonya, Tracey, Amber (Kawame), Mika, Bianca, Porsche and Brenton and great-grandchildren, Brittini, Jade, A'Meiya, De'Mi, SaMiya, Tayari, Kamryn, Rashod, Anton, Ethan, Breniyah, Evan, Kristopher, William and Cameron.

Final arrangements were entrusted to the Crane Funeral Home and funeral services took place March 8.

Mr. Hamilton's interment was at Romulus Cemetery.

Cemetery clean-up under way

Romulus City Clerk Ellen Craig-Bragg reminded residents during the meeting of the city council members last week that clean up of the Romulus Cemetery is under way.

"We are conducting the annual cemetery cleaning," she said, "and I want to remind residents that floral arrangements, including wreaths and grave blankets and other items must be removed."

Craig-Bragg said that flowers placed on graves at the cemetery must be in unbreakable vases and that cemetery officials are hoping to have the grounds cleaned and "looking nice for Palm Sunday."

Craig-Bragg said that the effort would continue throughout the entire month of March and that items removed from graves and headstones by groundskeepers would be saved for 60 days before disposal.

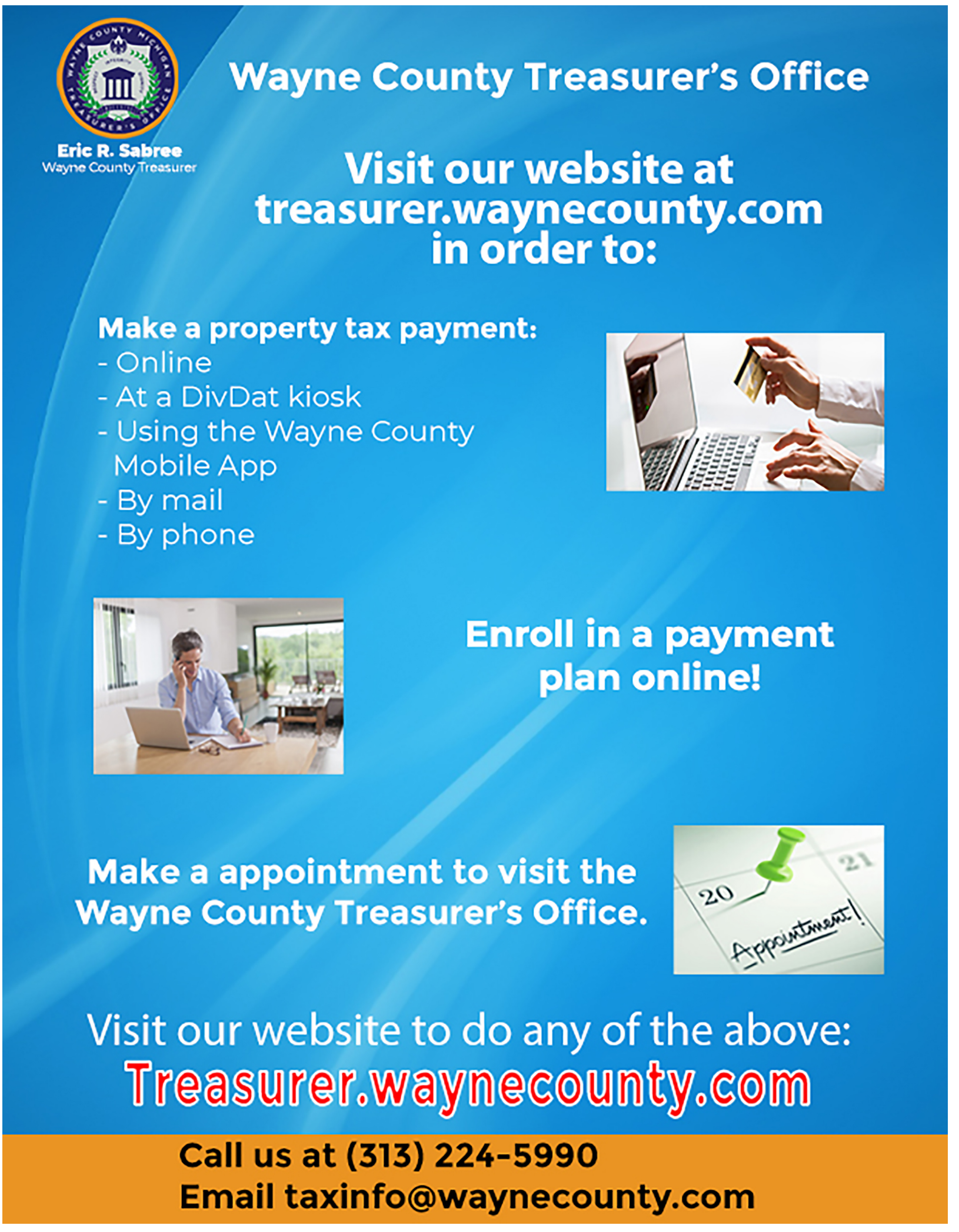
"I know some items are precious," Craig-Bragg said.

She explained that many items are placed on graves and headstones by loved ones which are not permitted including holiday decorations, yard ornaments, balloons, figurines, wind chimes lanterns, solar lights, shepherd hooks, picket fences, decorative rocks, vegetable plants, flags, photos and numerous other mementos.

"Items place are always at their own risk," she said and explained that the family must remove and claim the items.

"We will place the reminder and the list of permissible items on our Facebook page and city website along with other places," Craig-Bragg said, "to remind families to remove these items if they want them returned."

She said that if there are questions about items or procedures, individuals should call (734) 942-7540 and ask for Sean.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